MR. K. A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Todupuzha cum Devicolam*): May I know whether after the issue of that circular any Departmental Head has made any new appointments?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Government have no information.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): May I know when the Public Service Commissioner pointed out to Government instances of new appointments made by Heads of Departments?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): On the 6th of February 1936.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): May I know whether in that report he makes mention of any special department?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Yes. He has made special reference to the Police Department.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*): May I know whether there are any appointments made by the head of any department after that date which has not been approved by the Public Service Commissioner?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Government have no information.

MR. PACODE A. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Vilavankod*): May I know whether any disciplinary action has been taken against these officers?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): No, Sir.

Backward Communities.

306 *MR. K. MAHOMED (*Alwaye*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether they have granted any concession in the matter of age-limit to candidates from the backward communities in education so as to enable them to enter the Public Service of the State?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): The member is referred to Rule 16 (2) (*f*) of the Travancore Public Service Recruitment Rules—1111, published in the issue of the Gazette dated the 18th February 1936.

MR. K. MAHOMED (*Alwaye*): May I know the percentage of literacy of the Muslims in the State?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): It is less than the minimum fixed in the rule and so the Muslim is a backward community.

The Public Service Commissioner.

307. *MR. S. J. NAIR (*Nedumangad*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) when the Public Service Commissioner took charge of his duties;

(*b*) what all appointments he made since he took charge;

(*c*) upon what basis he makes appointments;

(*d*) who helps him in the matter of selection of the candidates; and

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